

# *Agenda*

- How HTTP works?
- How HTML works?
- Cross-site scripting (XSS)
- Session management



# *How HTTP works?*

TCP connection 123.123.123.123:X -> 194.36.162.154:80

**GET /arhiiv.php?id=112108 HTTP/1.1**

Host: www.err.ee

User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows; U; Windows NT 5.1; en-US; rv:1.9.2.11) Firefox/3.6.11

Accept-Language: en-us,en;q=0.5

Accept-Encoding: gzip,deflate

Accept-Charset: ISO-8859-1,utf-8;q=0.7,\*;q=0.7

Keep-Alive: 115

Connection: keep-alive

194.36.162.154:80 -> 123.123.123.123:X

**HTTP/1.1 200 OK**

Content-Type: text/html; charset=utf-8

Server: Microsoft-IIS/7.5

X-AspNet-Version: 2.0.50727

X-Powered-By: ASP.NET

Date: Sun, 28 Nov 2010 11:48:17 GMT

Content-Length: 19438

<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">

<head><title>

ERR – Eesti Rahvusringhääling

</title>

[...]



# *How HTTP works?*

**POST /index.php?06219912&com=1 HTTP/1.1**

Host: uudised.err.ee

User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows; U; Windows NT 5.1; en-US; rv:1.9.2.11) Firefox/3.6.11

Connection: keep-alive

Referer: http://uudised.err.ee/?06219912&com=1

Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded

Content-Length: 118

commentpost\_comment=This+is+test+comment&commentpost\_replyto=0&formaction=postmaincomment&commentpost\_displayname=John

**HTTP/1.1 200 OK**

Date: Sun, 28 Nov 2010 12:08:16 GMT

Server: Apache/1.3.26 (Unix) Debian GNU/Linux PHP/4.4.0-0.la02.0

X-Powered-By: PHP/4.4.0-0.la02.0

Cache-Control: no-cache

Pragma: no-cache

Connection: Keep-Alive

Content-Type: text/html; charset=utf-8

<html>

<body>

[...]



# *How HTTP works?*

**POST /index.php?06219912&com=1 HTTP/1.1**

Host: uudised.err.ee

User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows; U; Windows NT 5.1; en-US; rv:1.9.2.11) Firefox/3.6.11

Connection: keep-alive

Referer: http://uudised.err.ee/?06219912&com=1

Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded

Content-Length: 118

commentpost\_comment=This+is+test+comment&commentpost\_replyto=0&formaction=postmaincomment&commentpost\_displayname=John

```
$_GET => Array
(
    [06219912] =>
    [com] => 1
)
```

```
$_POST => Array
(
    [commentpost_comment] => This is test comment
    [commentpost_replyto] => 0
    [formaction] => postmaincomment
    [commentpost_displayname] => John
)
```

```
$_SERVER => Array
(
    [HTTP_HOST] => uudised.err.ee
    [HTTP_USER_AGENT] => Mozilla ...
    [HTTP_REFERER] => http://uudised...
    ...
)
```

# *HTML tags*

```
<html>
  <body>
    <pre>
      Hello World!
      This <b>makes text bold</b>!
      This <u>underlines text</u>!
    </pre>
  </body>
</html>
```

```
Hello World!
This makes text bold!
This underlines text!
```



# *How to display this?*

Please use `<b>` and `</b>` tag!



# *How to display angle brackets then?*

```
<html>
  <body>
    <pre>
      Please use <b> and </b> tag!
    </pre>
  </body>
</html>
```

Please use **and** tag!



# *HTML Entities*

Character	Entity Number	Entity Name
"	&#34;	&quot;
'	&#39;	&apos; (does not work in IE)
&	&#38;	&amp;
<	&#60;	&lt;
>	&#62;	&gt;



# *HTML*

```
<html>  
  <body>  
    <pre>  
      Please use &lt;b> and &lt;/b> tag!  
    </pre>  
  </body>  
</html>
```

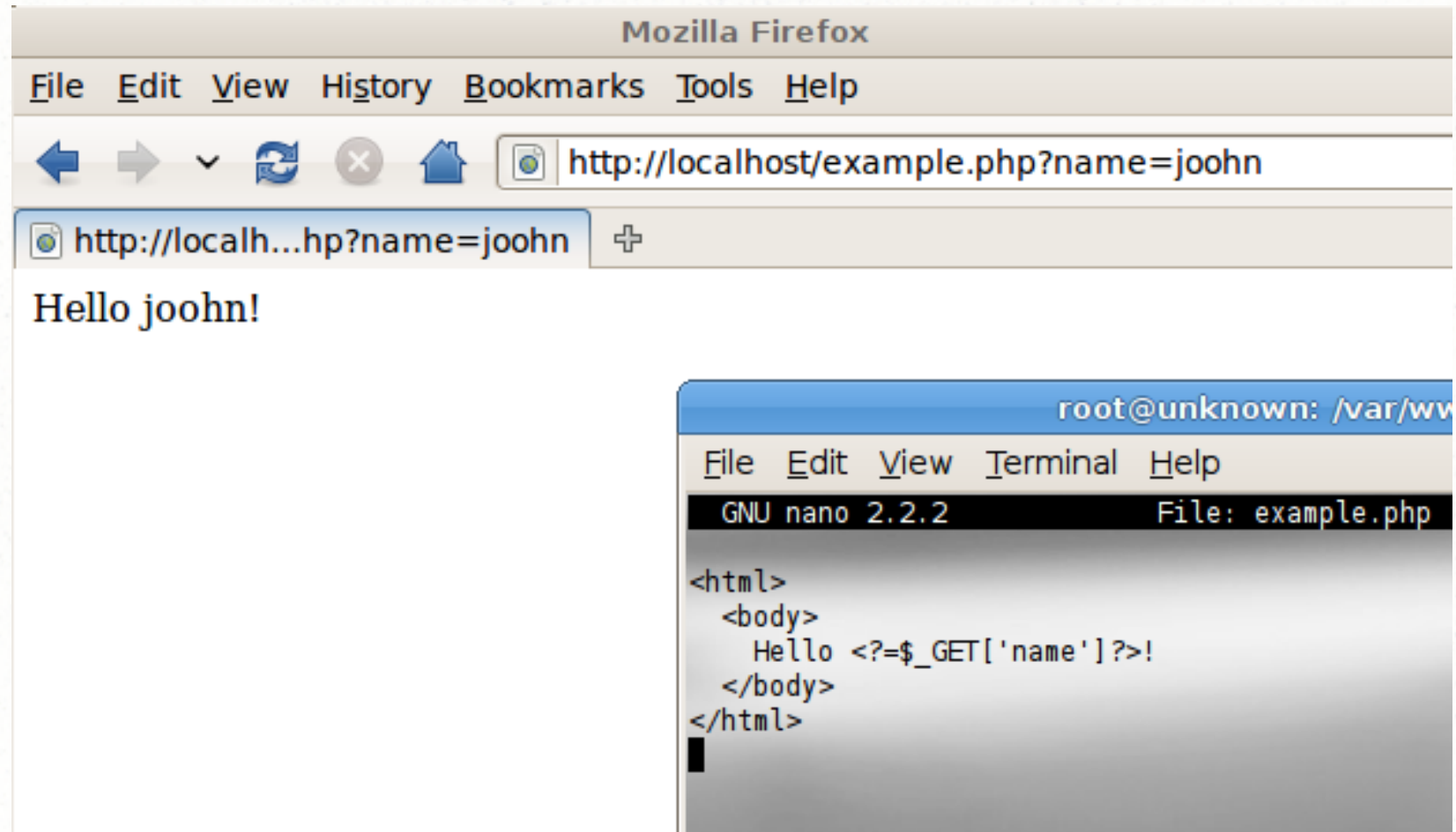
Please use `<b>` and `</b>` tag!

# *Cross-site scripting (XSS)*

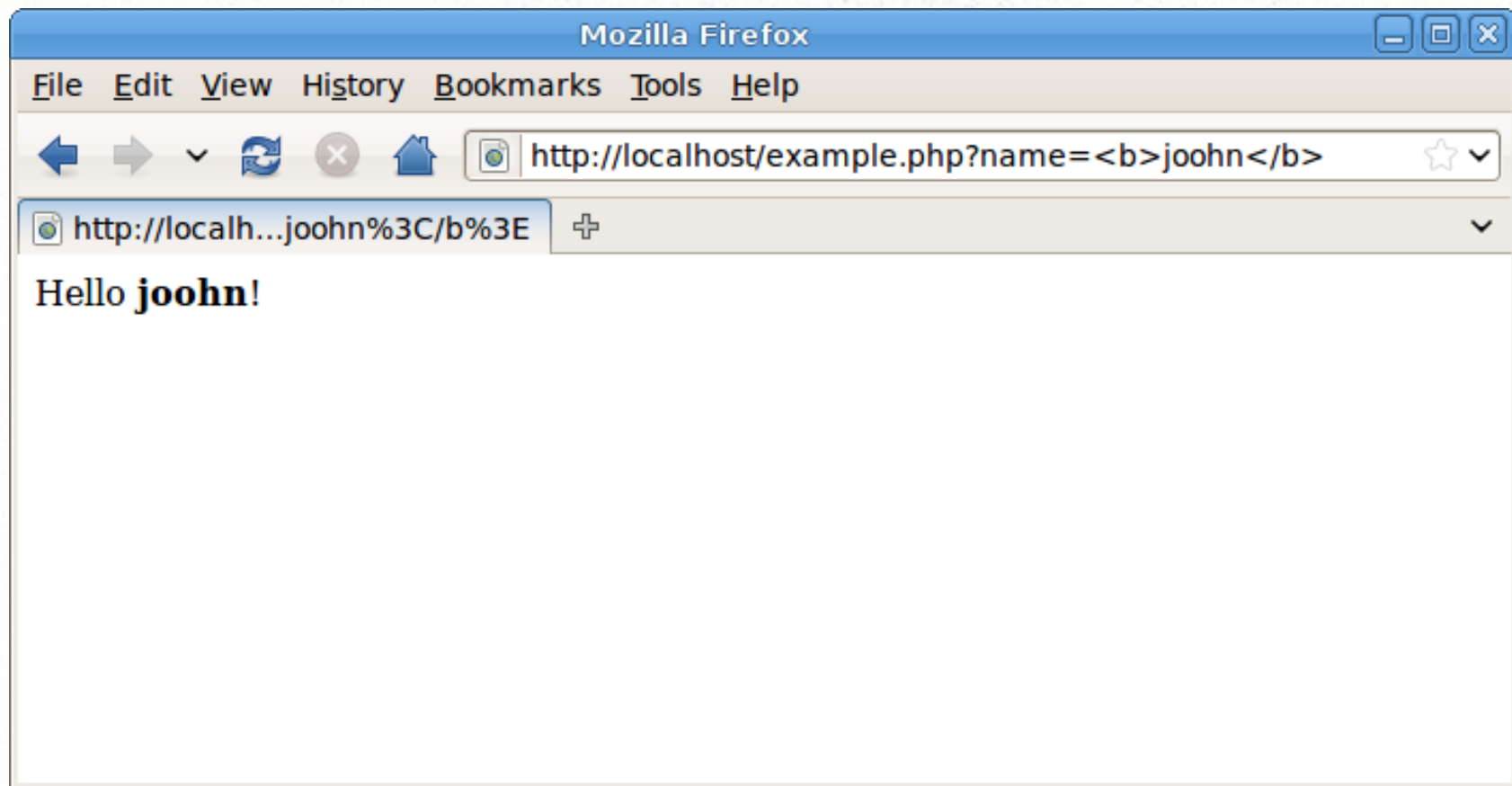
Untrusted data used without proper escaping to dynamically generate HTML and show it to end-user (victim).



# *XSS - example*



# *XSS - example*





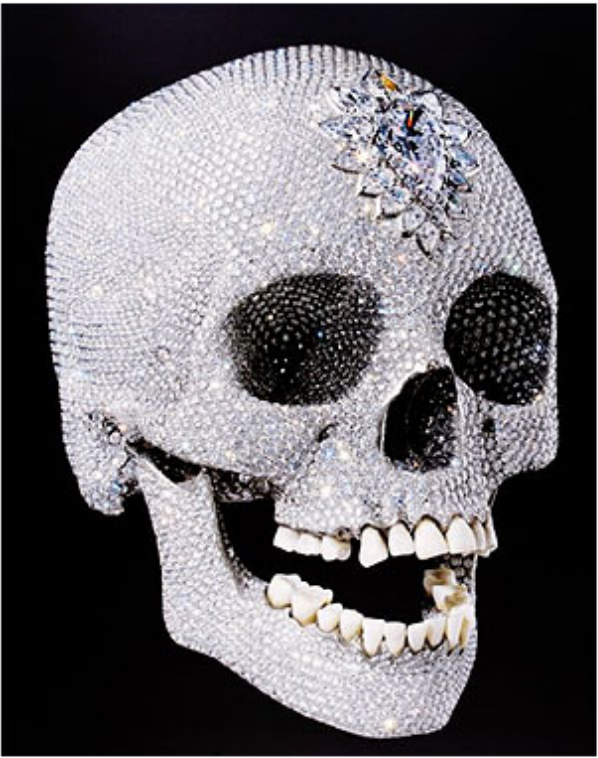
# *XSS - example*

Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://localhost/example.php?name=

http://localho...ll-2.jpg%22%3E



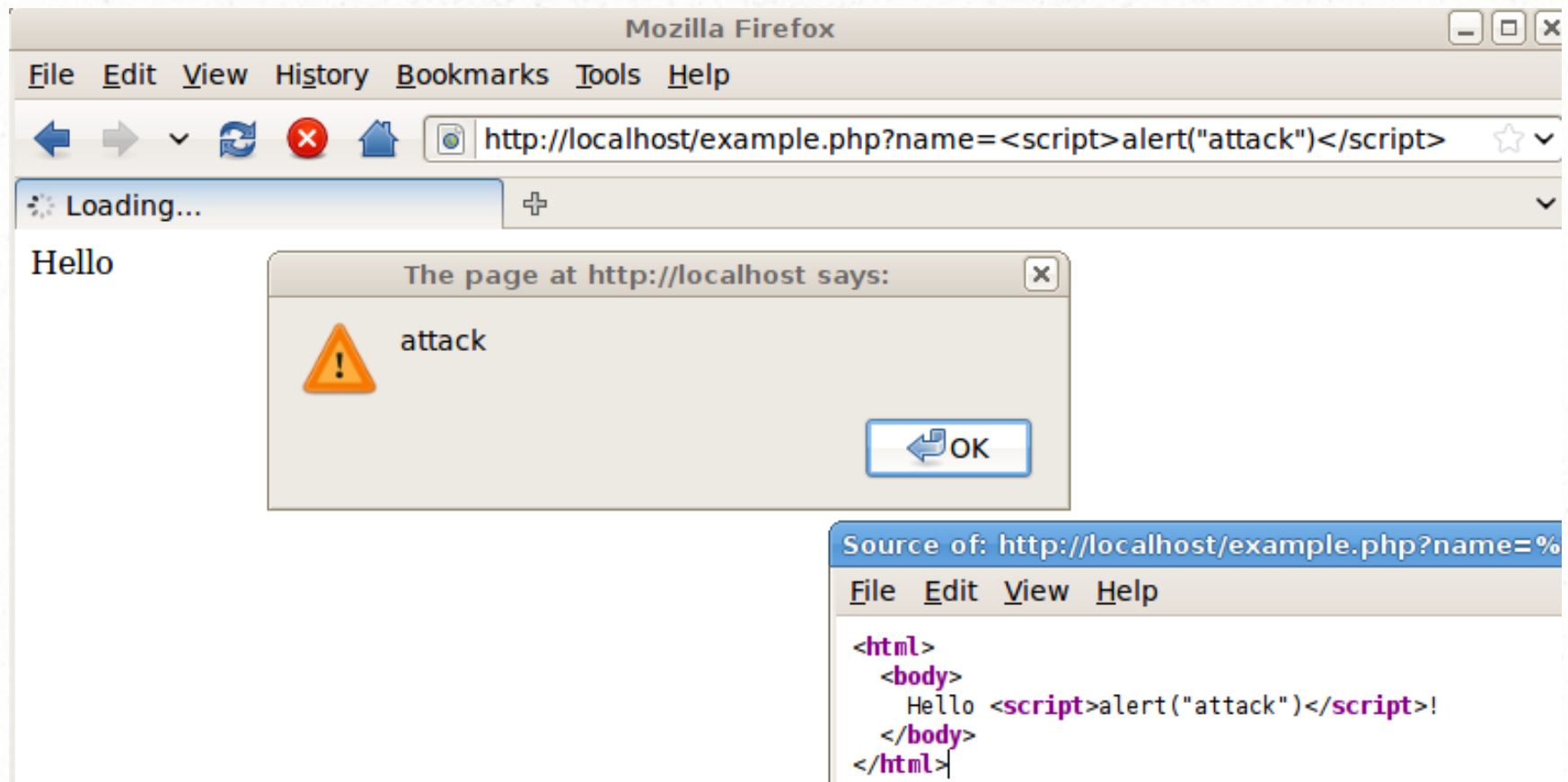
Hello

Source of: http://localhost/example.php?name=%3Cimg%20src=%22http://w

File Edit View Help

```
<html>
  <body>
    Hello !
  </body>
</html>
```

# XSS - example





# *Types of XSS*

- Reflective XSS
  - Immediately used to generate page result (most common)
- Stored XSS
  - Stored on server and shown later when accessing "normal" URL's

# *XSS - prevention (server side)*

The screenshot illustrates a successful Cross-Site Scripting (XSS) attack on a web application. The browser window shows the URL `http://localhost/example.php?name=<script>alert("attack")</script>`. The page content displays `Hello <script>alert("attack")</script>!`, indicating that the script was executed. An inset window shows the source code of the page, which is a PHP file using `htmlspecialchars` to escape user input. The source code is as follows:

```
<html>
  <body>
    Hello <?=htmlspecialchars($_GET['name'], ENT_QUOTES, 'UTF-8')?>!
  </body>
</html>
```

The source code shows that the user input is being escaped using `htmlspecialchars` with the `ENT_QUOTES` flag and `'UTF-8'` encoding. This is a common method for preventing XSS attacks on the server side.



## *XSS prevention (client side)*

- Reflective only:
  - Internet Explorer 8 Cross-site scripting filter
  - Mozilla Firefox NoScript extension



# *XSS Summary*

- Most common web application flaw
- Client side attack
- Validate and escape user input!



# *Session Management*

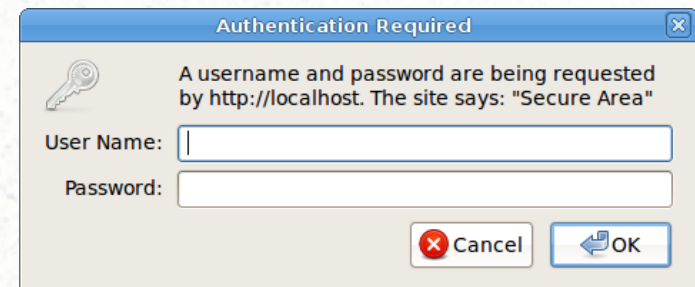
- HTTP is stateless protocol
- Several methods:
  - HTTP authentication
  - URL parameters
  - Cookies



# *HTTP Basic Authentication*

GET /private/index.html HTTP/1.1  
Host: localhost

HTTP/1.1 401 Authorization Required  
Server: HTTPd/1.0  
Date: Sat, 27 Nov 2004 10:18:15 GMT  
WWW-Authenticate: Basic realm="Secure Area"  
Content-Type: text/html  
Content-Length: 311



GET /private/index.html HTTP/1.1  
Host: localhost  
Authorization: Basic dXNlcm5hbWU6cGFzc3dvcmQK==

...

`base64_encode('username:password') = "dXNlcm5hbWU6cGFzc3dvcmQK=="`



# *HTTP URL Parameters*

- Session ID appended to links:

`http://www.example.com/index.php?SESSID=d1cea8b8c6b57afe`

- Problems
  - HTTP Referers
  - Copy & Paste
  - Session Fixation



# *HTTP Cookies*

GET /index.php HTTP/1.1

Host: www.example.org

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Content-type: text/html

Set-Cookie: SESSID=afe045bda8fc4

<html>  
 <body>  
 ...

```
$_COOKIES => Array  
(  
    [SESSID] => afe045bda8fc4  
    ...  
)
```

GET /logo.jpg HTTP/1.1

Host: www.example.org

Cookie: SESSID=afe045bda8fc4



# *HTTP Cookie Parameters*

Set-Cookie: var=123abc; expires=Fri, 31-Dec-2010 23:59:59 GMT;  
path=/; domain=.example.net; HttpOnly; Secure;



# *Session Management - Attacks*

- Prediction
- Capture
- Fixation



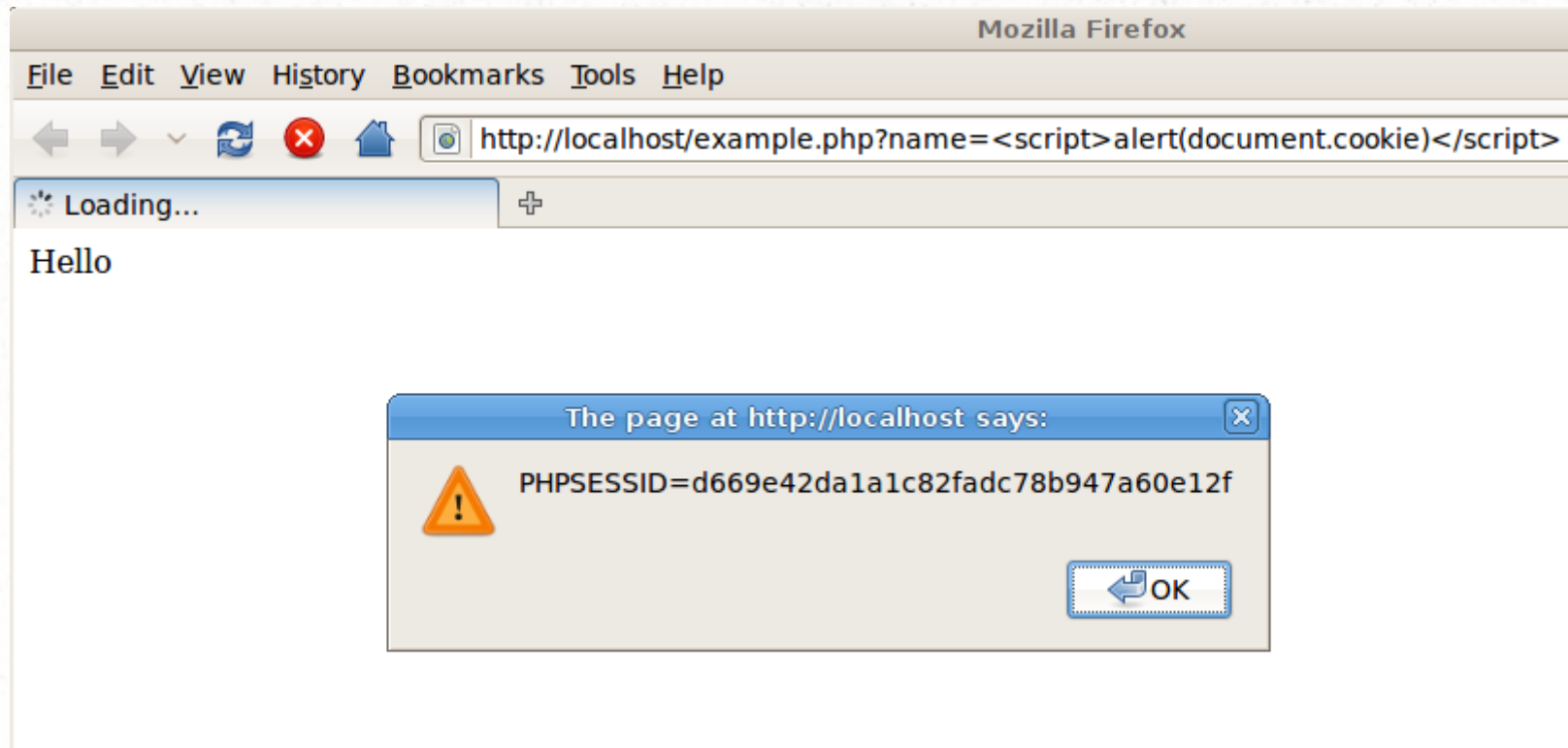
# *Session Capture - Sniffing*

- Sniffing unencrypted traffic
- HTTPS Cookie hijacking



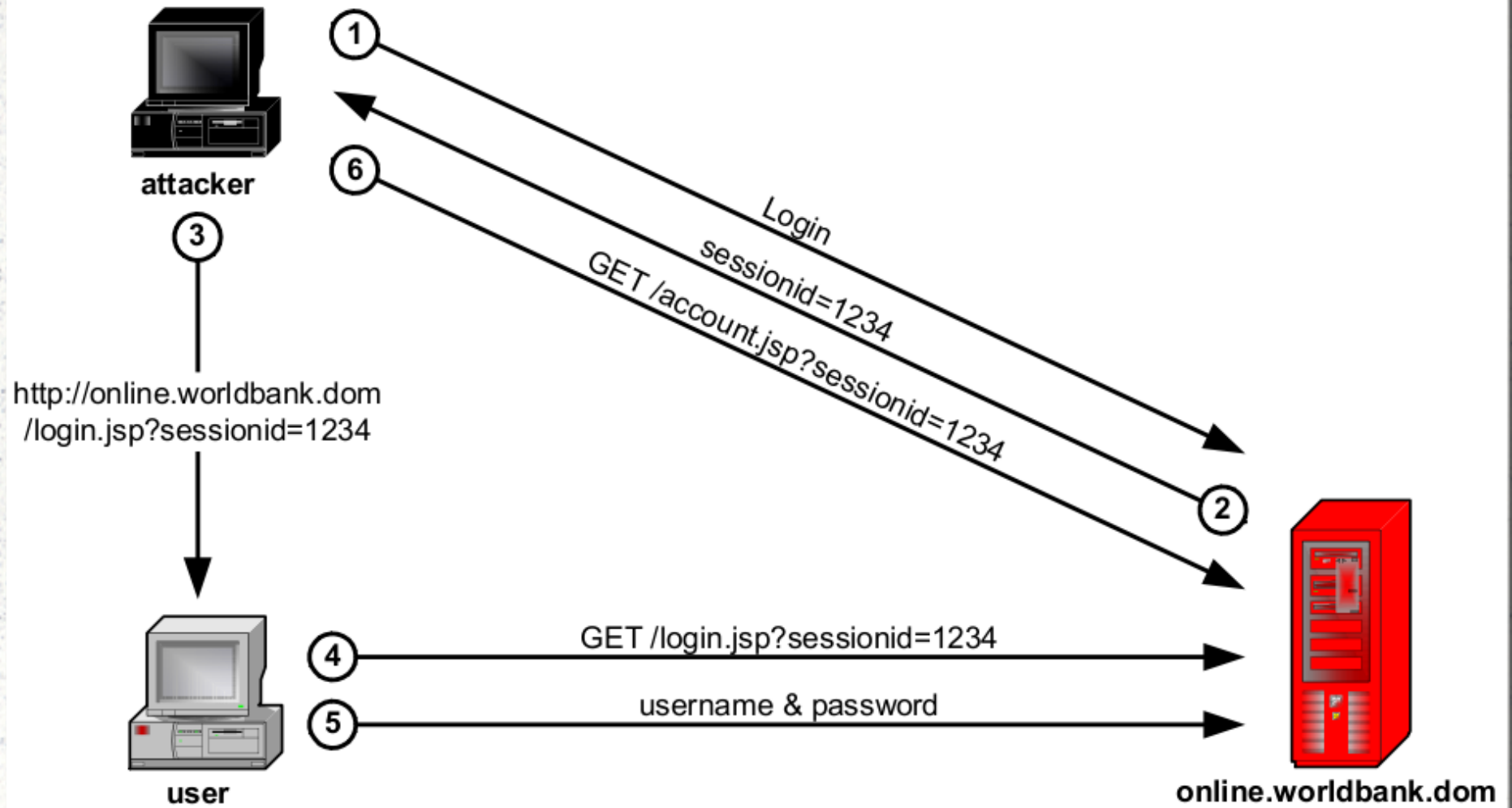
# *Session Capture - XSS*

- JavaScript can access cookies
  - Cookie 'HttpOnly' flag





# *Session Fixation Attack*



# *The devil lies in the details*

**browsersec**

*Browser Security Handbook*

- <http://code.google.com/p/browsersec/>